

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended. Reconsideration of the application in view of the amendment and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

Applicant appreciates the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative during the April 24 telephonic interview with Examiner Zimmerman. The points discussed are incorporated into the following remarks.

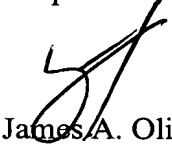
Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps. Applicants have amended claim 1 as suggested in the Office Action.

Applicants submit that independent claim 1 defines patentable subject matter. Claims 2-28 depend from independent claim 1, and therefore also define patentable subject matter. Applicants request withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-28 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Appendix

Date: April 30, 2003

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